

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services

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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE 425 Eye Street N.W. BCIS, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F Washington, D.C. 20536

File:

LIN 02 292 54631

. Office: Nebraska Service Center

APR 17 2003

IN RE:

Petitioner:

Beneficiary:

Petition:

Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the Immigration and

Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



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INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (Bureau) where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office that originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.7.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be sustained.

The petitioner is an individual who has been appointed to serve in a temporary position abroad for a two-year period. He desires to extend his authorization to employ the beneficiary as a groundskeeper and caretaker for an additional period of one year. The Department of Labor (DOL) determined that a temporary certification by the Secretary of Labor could not be made. The director concurred with the findings of the DOL.

On appeal, counsel submitted countervailing evidence addressing each of the reasons why the DOL could not grant a labor certification.

Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii), defines an H-2B temporary worker as:

an alien...having a residence in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning, who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform other temporary service or labor if unemployed persons capable of performing such service or labor cannot be found in this country, but this clause shall not apply to graduates of medical schools coming to the United States to perform services as members of the medical profession...

Matter of Artee Corp., 18 I&N Dec. 366 (Comm. 1982), codified in current regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii), specified that the test for determining whether an alien is coming "temporarily" to the United States to "perform temporary services or labor" is whether the need of the petitioner for the duties to be performed is temporary. It is the nature of the need, not the nature of the duties, that is controlling. See 55 Fed. Reg. 2616 (1990).

As a general rule, the period of the petitioner's need must be a year or less, although there may be extraordinary circumstances where the temporary services or labor might last longer than one year. The petitioner's need for the services or labor must be a one-time occurrence, a seasonal need, a peakload need, or an intermittent need. 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B).

The petition indicates that the employment is a one-time occurrence and the temporary need is unpredictable.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B)(1) states that for the nature of the petitioner's need to be a one-time occurrence,

the petitioner must establish that it will not need workers to perform the services or labor in the future, or that it has an employment situation that is otherwise permanent, but a temporary event of short duration has created the need for a temporary worker.

In its final determination notice, the DOL stated that a certification could not be issued because the petitioner's statement of need did not qualify for H-2 certification. Further, the DOL determined that the petitioner's Application for Alien Employment Certification (ETA 750) contained restrictive requirements which narrowed the pool of qualified applicants and disqualified any United States workers.

In response to the DOL's notice, the petitioner submitted a letter explaining that the living quarters available for domestic help on the property are unsuitable for other than a married couple. The petitioner explains that the security and maintenance of his home during his absence are the reasons for the live-in residence requirement. The petitioner also states that his appointment abroad is not expected to exceed a two-year term.

In summary, the terms and conditions of employment set forth by the petitioner are found to be appropriate for the temporary position offered. The petitioner's temporary assignment abroad is a temporary event of short duration that created the need for a temporary worker at his place of residence. Consequently, the petitioner has shown that the need for a groundskeeper and caretaker is temporary in nature.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. Here, the petitioner has met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained.